

AEOE Northern Council Meeting Minutes

Camp Hess Kramer

May 2, 2010

8:00 AM

In attendance: Michael Charnofsky, Pamela Wade, Karyn "Kestrel" O'Hearn, Kim Taylor, Reed Schneider, Cathy Harkness, Rob BBB Stolberg, Meg O'Neill, Scooby Jym Meier, John Fairweather, Dean Thompson, Amber Atkinson, Sean Hill, and Cathy Chambers,

Agenda

1. Welcome and Overview

- Scooby welcomed all and explained the council set up.

2. Spring Conference 2011, April 29- May 1st

- Westminster Woods
- We need volunteers to help in planning and running the conference. **Email Cathy Harkness and/or Scooby if you are interested.**
- Big Brown Bat will be the workshop coordinator.

3. Fall Conference 2010

- A survey of members' fall conference preferences was conducted. One catalyst for the survey was people voicing their concerns about the cold uncomfortable weather in Yosemite. Another was a concern that the campout has not been as inclusive of members or potential AEOE members. Cathy said that the survey showed that there were more people who would definitely not come to a camping conference than who would definitely not come if it were hosted at an outdoor school site.
- A few council members voiced that they interpreted the survey differently and/or expressed concern about not camping anymore.
- Kestrel asked about the audience we are looking to reach. Scooby mentioned the diversity of people who attended last fall and said that part of AEOE's vision is to be all inclusive. This move should help us to walk our talk. He said that as a council we need to be more proactive in advertising, diversifying membership, and talking with other forms of OE/EE organization. Scooby expressed that the diversity committee seems to have the same conversations each year, but that action has been lacking.
- Camp Arroyo, Campbell, Walden West, and Green Meadows have expressed interest in hosting. We need to consider the cost of each site and that Camp Campbell will be undergoing construction this summer and might not be ready for us in the fall. Scooby explained that sites have been responsive to our plea for reduced fees.
- Cathy asked about Hidden Villa. Scooby explained their calendar is full.
- Scooby expressed wanting to be able to rotate the site location if possible to mix it up.
- A decision needs to be made soon but Scooby needs to talk to the board about financing the conference first.

5. Outings

- Kestrel and Cathy H. shared what happened with the outings this year and a bit of history behind past outings. The Ano Nuevo trip was well attended. The Pinnacles outing only drew 3 people in addition to Cathy. AEOE had to swallow a loss because so few came.
- The idea of a deposit/PayPal system was voiced to minimize the chance of loss when we have outings that require fees. We have the resources to do this.

- Each outing needs to have a draw to bring in as many interested people as possible. One hope is that we will be able to offer a kayaking trip. This would require a fee, as would other things, so we need to sort out the funding piece soon.
- Cathy Chambers offered to offer basket weaving at a camping outing in the future.

Pamela shared that she and Jeanine are officially finished with their council duties, but offered to be resources for all of us. Jeanine says Hi and sends her love.

The next meeting will be the first Monday in June. Scooby will send a reminder.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 AM
Notes taken by Kim Taylor